

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I believe that the matter is still pending. The assignment is postponed.

The Mukundapuram Treasury defalcation Case.

330. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(1) whether the parties acquitted by the acting Sessions Judge in the sensational Mukundapuram Treasury Defalcation Case, but who had already made good the defalcated amount have been refunded the respective amounts contributed by the officers ;

(2) whether they have been reinstated in their respective posts ;

(3) the reasons for not doing so, if the answers to (1) and (2) are in the negative ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—(1) No.

(2) Shroff P. Velu Menon was retired on pension. Sampathi K. S. Ayyappan was ordered to be reinstated as a Taluk Head clerk on Rs. 45 ; but since then he has applied for retirement.

(3) As for (1) the question of refund does not arise as the amount defalcated was recovered from the officers responsible under the rules. As for (2) Government considered it inexpedient, in view of the circumstances attending the case, to reinstate them to the posts they held at the time.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Why were they acquitted, and why was not the defalcated amount refunded, since they were acquitted ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Please see sub-division (3), where the answer is given.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What was the necessity for prosecution, since they paid the defalcated amount.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—It is not a supplementary question, Sir. I request for your ruling. An offence is committed, and therefore prosecution is necessary.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Why was Mr. Ayyappan reduced to the post of Taluk Head clerk, when he was honourably acquitted ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Acquittal does not mean that a man is not guilty of want of official discipline or of official irregularities. Even after acquittal, he is amenable to the departmental discipline.

Public lighting in Porattisseri.

331. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—